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Today's Weather:  
Chance of  
Showers

Hi 65°F  
Lo 57°F

# The A&T REGISTER

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NOVEMBER 15, 2006

www.ncatregister.org

Volume lxxx Issue 9

## Aggies “Push it to the Limit”

By REKEL DARDEN  
Contributor

Students at A&T are being given an opportunity to gain hands on experience in the field of marketing thanks to a fall internship sponsored by Chevrolet.

The American auto-maker that prides itself in being “An American Revolution,” chose A&T as one of 10 schools to participate in the competitive learning opportunity known as the Chevrolet Marketing Internship Program.

“The goal of the program is to promote awareness of Chevrolet’s all-new HHR and Cobalt,” said Clarice McClung, a senior marketing major and program participant.

The two flashy cars that come in colors ranging from sunburst orange to rally yellow, are designed to appeal to Generation Y, so it is only fitting that they are marketed by the same group.

Aggie Innovations Marketing Group, which is the name the 31 marketing students adopted for their agency, has been responsible for researching, implementing and evaluating an integrated marketing campaign for their client, Bill Black Chevrolet of Greensboro, since the beginning of the semester.

The students received a \$2,500 budget, courtesy of Bill Black Chevrolet to help bring their plans into action and have been responsible for tracking and analyzing the results of their integrated marketing campaign, which they branded “Push it to the Limit.”

“This is an excellent program and it gives marketing majors real life experience in advertising and campaigning for a Fortune 500 company,” said Contraven Adams, a senior marketing major.

Today’s college graduates may have a difficult time finding a job due to a lack of experience and internships are just the way to make up for this loss.

See CHEVROLET INTERNS on Page 2



A photo montage of Ed Bradley during his career as an award winning journalist; shown here are Bradley, his CBS colleagues, and fellow award recipients. Bradley worked for CBS' 60 Minutes for almost 30 years covering a wide array of people and subject matters for the show.

PHOTO CREDIT: MCT CAMPUS



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Future A&T Chancellor, Dr. Stanley F. Battle with UNC President, Irsine Bowles at press conference at UNC Chapel Hill to announce that Battle will be the new chancellor of A&T, beginning in Fall 2007.

## Fresh men get fired up

By DEXTER MULLINS  
Contributor

Due to frustration with the University Studies Program (UNST) here at A&T, over 100 freshman students attended the first official Town Hall meeting on UNST in the Merrick Hall Auditorium on Nov. 1.

Students met with the dean of UNST, Dr. Joseph Graves, in an effort to assess and deal with some of the problems students were having with their UNST classes.

Graves tried to hold an open, but structured forum; however, a large majority of students were already upset before the meeting even began due to a last minute change in the location of the meeting from the auditorium in Hines Hall to Merrick.

“I didn’t really expect for any of the problems students had to be solved right away, but I definitely expected for students to be able to voice their concerns,” said Christian McIver, freshmen class president. “There is a level of order that is necessary for any meeting to run properly. Because of a lack of respect on both parts of students and faculty, the meeting just didn’t flow and nothing was achieved, which only aggravated the students more,” he said.

To make matters worse, because of the location change, students were only permitted to ask questions for just under half an hour. Originally the time of the meeting was to be from 7:30 to 9 p.m. However, because of an event that had already been scheduled in the room at 8 p.m., students were only permitted to ask questions for a half an hour, aggravating students even more than they already were.

“With so much confusion, all that resulted was a group of upset freshmen yelling at the class officers, trying to voice their concerns,” McIver said.

See UNST CONTROVERSY on Page 2

# Coppin State’s loss is A&T’s gain:

## Dr. Stanley F. Battle named A&T’s Chancellor-Elect

By JEURON DOVE  
News Editor

On Friday at 3 p.m. in the boardroom of Dowdy, history was made when

Dr. Stanley F. Battle was introduced as the newly elected chancellor of A&T.

Battle, 55, is the current president of Coppin State University located in Baltimore, Md. and has served in that capacity since 2003. While overseeing CSU, Battle has instituted a number of programs that quickly established CSU as not only one of

the premiere historically black institutions of higher learning in the country.

In a press conference that was attended by members of various news outlets, students, administrators and trustees, Battle made it clear as to what he plans to bring to the table as chancellor and as to why A&T caught his interest in the first place.

“It is not my intent to alter the tremendous history of this institution. In fact, it was the history of great men such as the A&T four that brought me here,” said Battle.

Some of Battle’s greatest achievements while at CSU included helping to transform the campus into one of the most technologically advanced institutions in the entire state of Maryland, as well as his acclaimed Coppin/Rosemont Initiative.

One of the areas that Battle feels most passionately about is involving the education of kids who are raised in urban areas. He often feels that society has turned their backs on kids who are raised in these areas.

He and his administration tackled this problem head-on

when they literally took over the leadership of Rosemont Elementary, which was among the lowest ranked schools of its kind in the Baltimore area due to the low test performance of its students.

Shortly after CSU took charge of Rosemont, the school quickly experienced a turnaround and is now one of the finest elementary schools in Baltimore and is academically nationally ranked.

The success of the Coppin/Rosemont Initiative has encouraged CSU to expand its program to other area schools such as Lemmel Middle School

and Douglass High School.

During the course of the conference, Battle expressed his gratitude for the hard work of the members of the chancellor search committee, in particular Velma Speight-Buford.

“She was the first lady that I met here and was my point of entry into the university,” he said.

He recalled one particular story of how the committee questioned him for nearly two hours and how happy he was to be able to leave the room when it was over. He describes them as being relentless, yet they

helped him to understand how serious the matter was.

After Battle concluded his address, he answered any questions that the media and audience members had. They ranged from hobbies that he does away from academics, the struggling athletic program of this season and a possible partnership with Dudley High

School, a local high school that faces many of the problems that schools like Rosemont faced.

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A&T honors those who served in the armed forces



#### ARTS & LIFE

R&B artist, Gerald Levert dead at age 40



#### EDITORIAL

Journalist examines the war in Iraq minus Rumsfeld



#### SPORTS

Chatman sets the pace for Lady Aggies



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# CBS loses legend to leukemia

## 60 Minutes' Ed Bradley dead at 65

By ALEXIS MASON  
Wires Editor

On Nov. 9, CBS lost one of its own; 60 Minutes veteran Ed Bradley, 65, lost his bout with leukemia after being diagnosed with the disease two years ago.

Bradley, who joined 60 Minutes in 1981-82 season, is remembered as being the only male correspondent to wear an earring, dedicated 39 years of service to CBS.

Bradley died, at Mount Sinai Hospital in Manhattan, from complications of chronic lymphocytic leukemia.

Bradley was a pioneer amongst black correspondents, becoming the first African American at CBS to be a White House correspondent and his ability to talk to the most guard-

ed celebrities, made him a cut above the rest.

"Bradley lived well, by that I mean someone who got the most out of life," said Dr. James Steele, associate professor of the political science department. "He was someone who was comfortable as an African American in a wider world, comfortable with any one on the planet and in any situation."

Over the course of his career, Bradley received the Emmy Award 20 times; three of his Emmys came at the 2003 awards: for lifetime achievement; a report on brain cancer patients and a report about sexual abuse in the Roman Catholic Church. The latest of these pieces was for an interview with Neil Armstrong. He also won a lifetime achievement award from

the National Association of Black Journalists.

"He was a great colleague and I enjoyed working with him," said Dr. Teresa Styles, associate professor of the journalism and mass communications department. Everything that has been said about him in the media truly reflects the outstanding person that he was."

One of Bradley's last stories was the Duke Lacrosse scandal, which aired on 60 Minutes on Oct. 15, investigated the Duke University rape case that accrued in March 2006. He was also the only one to conduct a televised interview with Oklahoma City bomber Timothy McVeigh.

As one of the most visible black journalists on television, Bradley broke down racial barriers and became a role model for

young African Americans.

"He set the standards for blacks in the media, especially black males entering the journalism profession," said Amber Nave, sophomore journalism and mass communication major.

He covered the presidential campaign of Jimmy Carter during Campaign '76 and served as a floor correspondent for CBS News' coverage of the Democratic and Republican National Conventions from 1976 through 1996.

"I feel that his career impacted the media tremendously his presence, skills, knowledge and passion to inform will be greatly missed," said Jason Perry, senior journalism and mass communication major.

Bradley joined CBS News as a stringer in its Paris bureau in

September 1971. A year later, he was transferred to the Saigon bureau, where he remained until he was assigned to the CBS News Washington bureau in June 1974.

He was named a CBS News correspondent in April 1973 and, shortly thereafter, was wounded while on assignment in Cambodia. In March 1975, he volunteered to return to Indochina and covered the fall of Cambodia and Vietnam.

During his down time, Bradley developed a passion for jazz that blossomed into a career as radio host for "Jazz at Lincoln Center," that won him one of four Peabody awards.

"Bradley held a great love for music...there were times where we would be lost in Mississippi looking for music, that was the

type of person he was," Styles said.

Over the years "we stayed in contact and he knew about A&T and the journalism and mass communication department," Styles said.

Although one of the first African-American reporters on national TV, Bradley refused to be denied by his race, never backed down from any challenge allowing him to always get the job done.

"When I worked with Bradley at CBS he was always pushing me to be the best that I could be, because he gave the best of himself to everyone," Styles said. "He made the job great because he was always so gung-ho about doing things."

## UNST Controversy

Continued from Page 1

"We eventually managed to regain order outside of the union and outline a plan of action."

Due to the meetings' lack of achievement, discontent turned some students away from the entire UNST program, regardless of the program being required of all freshmen in order to graduate.

"Because of all the problems I have seen with my friends that have this class, I think it would be more beneficial for me to take an alternative course until they work out all of the bugs," computer engineering major freshman Chris McLeod said. "It just doesn't make any sense for me to go to a class that is poorly coordinated. Why should I pay money for a class that has barely been thought out or planned properly enough for me to benefit from it?"

One possible suggestion to eliminating some of the confusion was to eliminate the breakout sessions.

## Chevrolet Interns

Continued from Page 1

The Chevrolet Marketing Internship Program bridges the gap between industry and education by providing students with the experience necessary to gain employment.

"Our main goal of this campaign is to be a part of the community and a part of the college atmosphere," said Jerry McPherson, General Sales Manager of Bill Black Chevrolet. "Another goal is to show our products through North Carolina A&T State University's marketing program."

Aggie Innovations Marketing Group began the "Push it to the Limit" campaign with an outdoor event on Oct. 18, in front of the Memorial Student Union. Students that stopped by that event had a chance to enjoy games, such as

"The best improvement that I think Dean Graves suggested was eliminating the breakout sessions for next semester," said senate intern president Michael Green. "It will give them time to analyze it and see if it will be beneficial for the students. In addition to the extra credit offered and grade adjustments, it is probably the most important improvement."

Despite the fact that some adjustments were being made, some students felt the changes were not coming quick enough.

"I hope that they will be put in place. I think some of the improvements are already taking too long to be put into place," Green said. "Some of the breakout teachers in Analytical Reasoning that were supposed to be removed the next day are still in their positions and they were simply talked to."

Frustrated with the results and responses of the students, Dean Graves ended the meeting and set up a follow-up meeting the next Monday, Nov. 6 at 7:30 p.m. in the Hines Hall

"Pack My Ride," where they competed to see how fast they could pack the back of the Chevy HHR with supplies that the group provided. The marketing team also provided food as well as prizes, which included gas cards, gift certificates, and gift packages filled with Bill Black Chevrolet promotional items.

The group sponsored another event filled with fun, food and prizes on Nov. 8 outside the Williams Cafeteria. Students were encouraged to come over take part in the festivities by students with megaphones, as popular songs boomed from the sound systems of the HHRs and Cobalts provided for the event by Bill Black Chevrolet.

Each student that visited the event was asked to take a seat in one of the two Chevy models, check out the neat features of each and complete a survey. The surveys served as a means of measuring the atten-

Auditorium. This time, the meeting was much more respectful, organized and less attended, making it easier for the students to have their questions answered. It was not until this meeting that real solutions to the problem were discussed and put into motion to help ease some of the tensions.

"I mean, the suggested improvements should make a positive change if implemented," said freshman class committee chair Jessica Gowins. "However, since many of the students currently in the UNST courses have not received the implemented changes, their grades are questionable for the fall semester."

Somewhat satisfied, students left the meeting with some sense of accomplishment, but some still feel more needs to be done, but for the time being, the proposed corrections will have to do.

Several efforts were made to contact Dean Graves for commentary, but they were unsuccessful.

dance of the two events.

Jonathan Hairston, CEO of Aggie Innovations Marketing Group shared his sentiments on the success of the events.

"We have built awareness and reached our goal of having at least 700 students actually sit in the cars," Hairston said. "We interacted with 703 students at our first event, so our goal was actually met then. After the second event, we will have interacted with well over 800 students."

There will be a post-evaluation of the promotional campaign to measure the students' success and the program participants will present the results of their research, along with an evaluation of their campaign strategy to executives from Chevrolet, Bill Black Chevrolet, and EdVentures Partners on Nov. 29 in Craig Hall room 212.

Two of the 10 schools participating in the internship program will be chosen to go to Atlanta to compete for first place.

## "Honoring Those Who Served":

### Aggies pay tribute to Veterans

By ALICIA MOORE  
Contributor

On Nov. 10, the Office of Veteran and Disability Support Services honored all North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University students, staff, administrators, and faculty who are veterans.

The University gave its thanks to the Aggie men and women of the Armed Forces with a panel discussion that began at 10:00am and then a luncheon following the discussion.

The panel discussion was entitled, "Transitioning from Military to Civilians."

Each of the panelists were anxious to answer the questions provided by the moderator, Ernest Hooker, pertaining to topics on the physical transition, armed forces and its influences on veterans, benefits and stereotypes.

The panel lasted about an hour, opening with the panel discussion and ending with opening the floor up for questions and comments.

"I would like to pay homage to this program; I am thankful and grateful for such a celebration," said Dr. Judy Rashid, Dean of Students. "It makes me plan for the future. These are things students need to hear daily- and what better group to present to our students than the veterans."

Many of the panelists and veterans agreed that the transition from the armed forces to civilian life can be difficult for many, especially those coming from the war zone. Much of the advice that the panelists gave are similar to the things students do to prepare for college and in some cases transition from college to the "real world." Preparatory steps such as time management skills, paying attention to detail, planning and preparing, discipline, leadership, self-determination, and the ability to deal with different types of people were at the core of the advice that veterans offered to those in the midst of or getting ready to transition from the field to civilian life.

The majority of the panel was

made up of veterans from A&T. The participants were Archie Barrow from the Employment Security Commission, Qasiym Gilliam-a Biology student, Maurice Hamilton- a Liberal Studies student, Quadern Knight- a Political Science senior, Gerald Olen from the A&T Police Administration, Willene Rucker from the Dean's Office, Martinez Washington from A&T's financial aid office, and Clarice McNeil. The veterans varied from the U.S. Air Force, U.S. Marines, U.S. Army, and the U.S. Navy.

"How has the military enhanced or influenced your life?" Hooker asked. Eager to all answer at once, Barrow took the question first and assured that if it had not been for the military, he would not be where he is today. "... and I am thankful for that!" commented Barrow. "I would definitely have to say confidence," said Clarice McNeil, wrapping up her answer. Other factors that seemed to have been influential were the brother and sisterhood the environment housed, learning appreciation for other people, traveling, and learning to give back.

One of the most discussed topics was the fact that veterans are not taking full advantage of the benefits offered after one has completed service in the force. When asked "why?" most of the veterans gave the same answer. "... the lack of communication, information, and initiative." It is interesting that the veterans tell how much discipline, leadership, confidence, and self-determination the armed forces instills in one and then say that veterans lack initiative when it comes to seeking benefits they are entitled to. "It is a lot of paper work involved," said Gilliam. "In many instances, when a person is finished serving his/her time, they are ready to wipe their hands clean and move on," added Gilliam, who takes advantage of the benefits, especially those set aside for education- making his transition straight into school a smooth one.

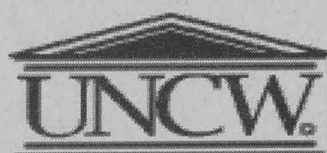
"The program was very nice,

said army vet. Gerald Olen. "I was most surprised by the turnout. I really didn't think many people were going to show up," continued Olen. However, when interviewing Gilliam, he went on to say "... I appreciate the support and recognition from the Aggie family, but it was a relatively small turnout- I was surprised not to see many ROTC participants." "I enjoyed the program, said Ansen Jones, junior English major and veteran sergeant of the military. "I think that they should have focused more on the actual transition from military life to civilian life, especially for those who are in the reserves, have went to Iraq and have come back."

Following the panel discussion, the program moved over to the Exhibit Hall for the luncheon where fellow aggie student, Ms. Jennifer James sang the National Anthem and A&T's ROTC did the Posting of Colors. The guest speaker was honorary Colonel James R. Gorham, veteran of the Army National Guard, who brought tears to the audience during his speech. This innovative man gave tribute to the legacy of our culture and those soldiers who have paid for the country to be where it is today. He also gave tribute the Buffalo Soldiers Organization calling it "the greatest untold story in the history of our nation. As Colonel Gorham ended his moving, heart touching speech, the audience thanked him with a warm standing ovation.

To wrap up the luncheon, veterans were given special thanks and awards. There was a special presentation given by Major Donald Lindsay, president of the Buffalo Soldier Organization of North Carolina. He presented two very special men with \$250 scholarships and recognition by the Buffalo Soldier Organization. The recipients were Ernest Hooker and Purvis Eichelberger, both of which were in part responsible along with Peggy Oliphant-director of Veteran & Disability Support Services for the success of the honorary program.

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## New Chancellor

Continued from Page 1

One of the more important questions that was asked revolved around how he would transition from leading an institution with a population of just over 4,000 students to one that has a population of approximately 11,000.

"Before I came to Coppin, I worked for top-tier institutions such as Boston University, Eastern Connecticut State University and the University of Wisconsin-

Milwaukee. I also have experience in comprehensive schools as well, so I think that I am very

qualified to lead this institution," he said.

Other faculty, staff and students also feel that he is highly capable of taking A&T to the next level.

"I think that he's going to be a tremendous asset to our school and firmly believe that what you see with him is what you get. It was also a strong positive that he let everyone know off the bat that he was driven by faith. This means that he will deal with decisions through wisdom and not emotion. It's very seldom that you will get a chancellor who lets you know upfront where he stands spiritually," said Dr. Sullivan.

Welborne, vice chancellor of student affairs.

Senior chemical engineering major and director of student technology services, Corey Adams, who was personally introduced to Battle, feels confident about A&T's new leadership.

"He is a good individual and has strong potential. He's coming in at a great time and will keep momentum going," he said.

Throughout the entire press conference, Battle remained constant in stating the fact that he feels that there is no opportunity on earth like getting a chance to lead an institution like A&T.

"The reputation of A&T as one of the top three black schools in this country speaks for itself as an academic institution and as a Mecca of intelligence," he said.



# National News

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The A&T Register

NOVEMBER 15, 2006

## Again, Pelosi will redefine women's work

BY MARY ANNE OSTROM  
San Jose Mercury News  
(MCT)

SAN JOSE, Calif.--Nancy Pelosi laughed because she thought it could be one of her daughters calling about her overdue baby early Wednesday morning, but it turned out to be the White House.

President Bush kidded that, in the spirit of bipartisanship, he'd sent over a list of Republican interior decorators to help the San Francisco Democrat "pick out the new drapes in her new offices."

Jokes about grandkids and drapes in the halls of power? What a difference a day makes.

As a woman is poised to become speaker of the House for the first time—an achievement widely applauded last week—people are asking: How will things be different in a House run by a woman?

Already, some blamed a "tone-deaf" president for trivializing and discrediting the talent of the would-be speaker by suggesting she needed decorating help.

Others laughed it off.

Some in Congress, and outside, say Pelosi's almost-certain ascendancy won't come without continuing assessments of how a woman runs the House. Consider that the U.S. Senate only recently debated the appropriateness of open-toed shoes.

Shaking her head, Sen. Dianne Feinstein called Bush's jab a subtle attempt and "an easy way of beginning the softening of the presence of leadership."

Added Feinstein, who became San Francisco's first female mayor in 1978, "There is always added pressure for a woman. Take it from me."

Come January when the next Congress convenes, at least 70 members, pending undetermined races, will be women, 16 of those in the Senate. But it's a new ballgame when the key leader is a woman.

All over television talk shows, pundits have pondered how difficult it might be for a woman to be in a position that conjures up images of smart-alecky, crusty men pounding a gavel. A common refrain:

Is she tough enough?

"The presumption is to scrutinize her and look for recogniza-

have other ways of persuading members."

Rosen called Bush's comments



MCT CAMPUS  
President Bush meets with Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) and Vice President Dick Cheney in the Oval Office in Washington, Thursday, Nov. 9, 2006 after their meeting.

ble male leadership capacities," said Ruth Rosen, a visiting professor who teaches women's history at the University of California-Berkeley. "She may not have all those, but she may have other skills that come from raising five children. She may

"a put-down."

Those who have watched Pelosi since her election to the House in 1987 describe a very hard worker with astonishing fundraising skills. As she has ascended the House leadership, she has massaged her speech-

making skills, growing crisper and more articulate, while learning the value of a good television shot.

And those who know her well guffaw at the "not tough enough" assessment.

"People think I'm tough. She's tougher. I couldn't carry her jock," longtime friend and former lawmaker John Burton said.

But now that Pelosi's in the spotlight, her style and leadership skills are coming under scrutiny such as she's never experienced.

Pelosi, 66, did not get her job by being a wallflower.

The daughter and sister of Baltimore mayors, Pelosi in her first race beat 13 other candidates in a typically wild San Francisco election in June 1987 to fill the seat of the wife of legendary San Francisco Congressman Phil Burton. Pelosi had moved to San Francisco in 1969 with her husband, and had been courted to run for office earlier. She deferred until her youngest daughter was in high school.

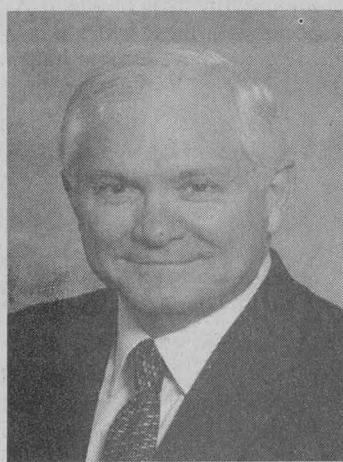
Once back in Washington, she

steadily worked herself up the leadership ladder, serving in 2000 as the first female whip, and then was elected minority leader by her colleagues, another first, in 2002.

U.S. Rep. Zoe Lofgren, D-Calif., who watched the returns with Pelosi on election night, said: "She's been incredibly focused on keeping the Democrats unified. It's good leadership skills to help people understand that they had more in common and helped them reach consensus. She listens to people very skillfully."

Before Tuesday's election, Pelosi told Boston Globe columnist Ellen Goodman that if she's the one "the White House fears most, I take that as a badge of honor." Asked about being a target because she is a woman, she added, "The minute you go into this arena, especially at this altitude, you have to prove you can breathe the air."

## Rumsfeld resigns as former CIA director to take post



MCT CAMPUS  
Robert Gates, form head of the CIA

BY RON HUTCHESON  
McClatchy Newspapers  
(MCT)

WASHINGTON--Chastened by a "thumpin'" at the polls, President Bush heeded voters' call for change Wednesday by ousting Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld.

Bush's surprise decision to replace Rumsfeld with former CIA Director Robert Gates was the most dramatic event in a series of rapid-fire developments triggered by the Democratic takeover in Congress.

Late results from Tuesday's elections left Democrats poised to control both the House of Representatives and the Senate, although the final Senate lineup might hinge on a Virginia recount that could take a few weeks. Virginia Democrat James Webb held a lead of more than 7,000 votes out of 2.3 million cast over Republican Sen. George Allen.

Bush and House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, in line to

become America's first female House speaker, pledged to work together on issues ranging from Iraq to increasing the minimum wage.

"The American people spoke with their votes, and they spoke for change," Pelosi said. "Nowhere was the call for a new direction more clear from the American people than in the war in Iraq."

But the talk of cooperation didn't immediately dispel the partisan rancor that's settled on Washington nor did it stop Republican recriminations over the election results. House Speaker Dennis Hastert, R-Ill., announced that he would surrender his role in the Republican leadership when the new Congress convenes in January.

At the White House, a somber Bush said he was surprised and disappointed by Tuesday's outcome.

Bush acknowledged his share of the blame for an election that was a referendum on the Iraq war and on his performance as commander in chief.

"As the head of the Republican Party, I share a large part of the responsibility," he said at a White House news conference. "It was a thumpin'."

Rumsfeld's ouster came a week after Bush told a small group of reporters that he wanted the defense secretary to stay on the job until end of his presidency. Despite what he said, Bush had already concluded that he wanted "a fresh perspective" at the Pentagon, although he hadn't interviewed Gates or worked out final details of Rumsfeld's resignation.

"I didn't want to inject a major decision about this war in the final days of the campaign," he explained, directing his response to the reporters he'd misled. "The only way to answer that question and to get you on to another question was to give you that answer."

Members of Congress from both parties welcomed Rumsfeld's departure as a sign that Bush is open to new ideas on Iraq. Critics say the 74-year-old defense secretary ignored his commanders' advice, invaded Iraq with too few troops, set a tone that encouraged the abuse of war captives, failed to develop a credible post-war plan, and imposed back-breaking burdens on the Army and Marine Corps.

Rumsfeld showed little of his characteristic cockiness at a brief appearance with Bush and Gates later Wednesday, but he maintained his sense of humor.

"I have benefited greatly from criticism," he said, borrowing a line from Winston Churchill, "and at no time have I suffered a lack thereof."

In contrast to Rumsfeld, Gates is considered a pragmatic foreign policy realist, with a tendency to see the world in shades of gray, rather than in black-and-white distinctions. For example, Gates has said he favors opening a dialogue with Iran—an idea that Rumsfeld and Bush have opposed.

"This is the death knell of the neo-conservative approach," said Sen. Joseph Biden, D-Del. "I think the president is going to necessarily have to find new ground."

## President Bush may have to lower his goals in Iraq

BY WARREN P. STROBEL  
AND DREW BROWN  
McClatchy Newspapers  
(MCT)

AUSTIN, Texas--For more than a decade, Karl Rove has sought to build an enduring Republican majority that would dominate politics for a generation.

On Tuesday, the Texan's grand plan hit a wall. A Democratic tidal wave swept the House and possibly the Senate and spoiled the hopes of the political wizard dubbed "Bush's Brain" for his strategic brilliance and hardball style.

Going into the election, Rove & Co. expressed confidence that Republicans would hold control of Congress, touting a vaunted get-out-the-vote machine that had performed miracles in the 2002 midterm elections and President Bush's 2004 re-election.

But the Rove model failed, a rare breakdown of his formula for winning elections. The plan entails using specific policies and messages to reach out to disparate groups and build a narrow but energized coalition.

That means if one group becomes dispirited, though, the whole system crashes. Mix in an overarching issue that bothers many groups, such as the Iraq war, and the plan's strength became its fatal flaw, Rove critics said this week.

Whether the model can be revived for a quick GOP return to power in two years is a point of contention. Some want the party to take a broader, sweeping message to the voters.

"The Rove era is over," said former Texas Republican Party Chairman Tom Pauken, a Rove rival going back to Bush's days as governor.

Others saw it as a temporary setback, not a long-term collapse, and said it was too soon to bury prospects of a lasting Republican realignment.

"Just because you lose one ballgame doesn't mean you lose your genius," said former House Majority Leader Tom DeLay. "In the presidential year of '08, Republicans will have an opportunity to turn this around and take it all back."

Bush took a good-natured jab at his political guru on Wednesday at a White House news conference while Rove looked on. Asked by a reporter who was ahead in a competition between the president and Rove over who could read more

books, Bush said: "I'm losing. I obviously was working harder on the campaign than he was."

For the man Bush hailed as "the architect" of his re-election in 2004, the GOP collapse in Tuesday's midterm elections was swift and unusual.

The Bush-Rove partnership, which had its genesis in Texas, has carried both men to the pinnacle of politics. It was Rove who tried to convince the then managing partner of the Texas Rangers to run for governor in 1990, succeeded in 1994 and managed every Bush political campaign since.

Along the way, Rove developed a divide-and-conquer model of winning campaigns. Instead of consensus politics, Rove targeted select groups in the GOP base. Each group—Christian conservatives, tax-cutters, suburban security moms—could be motivated by hot-button issues—gay marriage, lower taxes, the looming threat of terrorism.

But nothing united the groups. It was an aggregation, not an alliance.

"During the heyday of the Architect and his dream of realignment, they had a very smart strategy and very capable operatives," said University of Texas political scientist Bruce Buchanan. "But they never had the kind of issue agenda that really created new Republicans."

With a vast computer database dubbed the "Voter Vault" and an efficient grassroots voter-identification operation, the GOP under Rove implemented a base-rallying strategy capable of producing just enough votes to win.

But there may have been a flaw in the architecture. With such narrow margins, one unhappy constituency—say, religious conservatives dismayed by corruption and sex-scandals—can bring down the coalition.

Exit polls show that the GOP did, indeed, suffer some erosion of support among Christian conservatives following the tawdry sex scandal involving former Florida Rep. Mark Foley.

Almost three in 10 white evangelical Christians, a key part of the Republican base, voted Democratic. Democrats also swept through the suburbs, enjoying a 10-point advantage among suburban women and splitting the suburban male vote with the GOP. In 1994, 61 percent of suburban men voted Republican.

Pauken, who headed the state GOP when Bush was governor in the 1990s, is critical of Rove's use of polarizing wedge issues to

win elections.

"The American people are coming to the end of the line of this business of each election being more Machiavellian than the other guy and raising more money and attacking and destroying the other candidate and winning a temporary victory," he said. "They want to know what you're going to do to fix the serious problems we have in this society."

Pauken says the solution for the GOP is restoration of the Goldwater-Reagan coalition that is open to compromise but grounded in a conservative, idea-driven agenda.

The 2006 race, some analysts say, could be the harbinger of a return to centrist politics. They point as a model to Arnold Schwarzenegger, who has worked actively at bipartisan compromise and easily won re-election as California governor Tuesday.

"People are looking for leaders who are going to put aside the partisanship and focus on the issues people really care about," said former White House spokesman Scott McClellan.

He cited Sen. John McCain of Arizona and former New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and Democratic Sen. Barack Obama of Illinois as the kind of political figures who might emerge as most appealing to voters in 2008.

McClellan said the Rove strategy of identifying and motivating the base might not be sufficient to win under those conditions.

"You're going to see emerging in the 2008 campaign leaders that have such a strong force of personality that they can really transcend the partisanship and bring people together," he said.

If Democrats decide to follow their own politics of division, launching investigations of the Bush administration over the next two years, it could work against them, said McClellan.

"That's not what people want," he said.

In such a circumstance, he said the GOP is well-positioned to retake power.

"They have built a strong grassroots operation over the last several years, nationally and particularly in swing states," McClellan said.

Thanks to Rove, he said, "You have a foundation that's going to remain in place."

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# Editorial

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The A&T Register

SEPTEMBER 20, 2006

## Full speed sideways: Rumsfeld boot shows Bush ready for real change in Iraq

By MICHAEL GOODWIN  
New York Daily News  
(MCT)

It wasn't just Donald Rumsfeld who got the boot Wednesday. The post-election shakeup also put a stake in the Era of the Neocons. Watching President Bush's pained and antsy performance, I had the sense he'd fire Vice President Cheney if he could.

But he can't, so he's doing the next best thing. Rumsfeld is gone and with him is, hopefully, the neocons' foolish and infuriating insistence that everything in Iraq is hunky-dory and not subject to change. "Full speed ahead," Cheney said Sunday, just before he went on another hunting trip. Maybe he should take his fancy Italian shotgun to Iraq where it might do some good.

At least Bush got the point about Tuesday's results. He was full of promises about bipartisan

cooperation, showed a new degree of frustration with Iraq and signaled he's ready to make major policy changes. That's the real news—the policy is changing, whether Cheney likes it or not.

As for Rumsfeld, you know you're a liability when the stock market goes up as soon as your firing is announced, which is what happened.

Beyond the timing of the change, the Bush family drama is also striking. In hiring Robert Gates to replace Rumsfeld, Bush is turning back to his dad's team, which means the pragmatists are coming to the rescue. Hopefully, they're coming to rescue not only Bush's legacy, but also our efforts to defeat Islamic fundamentalists.

Gates, a former head of the CIA, is from the extended clan of Bush 41. He's the president of Texas A&M University, the site of Bush 41's Presidential Library.

His hiring should makethe

Bush family Thanksgiving less tense. There have been reports that father and son rarely speak, and never about Iraq. And it's a fact that members of the 41 tribe, especially former national security adviser Brent Scowcroft, have been banished from the current White House because they dissented on Iraq.

By turning to Gates, who served as Scowcroft's deputy, it's as though the prodigal son is knocking on Dad's door and asking for help. The answer was yes, proving you always can go home again.

Shrinks will write books about this one, but for the rest of us, the policy bombshells will have to do. It matters very much that Gates is a member of the Iraq Study Group, the James Baker and Lee Hamilton-led bipartisan effort to chart a way out of the mess. When I wrote about Baker last month, I said Bush was forced "to outsource his thinking" on Iraq and that, if Baker could form a consensus, it would

open the door to Rumsfeld's leaving.

I had no idea it would happen so fast, or that Bush would "insource" a member of the study group as the replacement. Then again, it didn't seem likely at the time that Democrats would give the GOP what Bush called the "thumpin'" they did on Election Day.

Bush has often been accused of not being the brightest bulb in the shop, but give him credit for being smart enough to realize the implications of the election. He moved quickly because he's running out of time and now he has to share power. No wonder he looked so miserable yesterday.

Because the war was the major reason the GOP lost Congress, Rumsfeld was the first to go. But there were other reasons, too, so he won't be the last.

If only we could find some way to put Cheney on the list.

## President Obama? It depends upon what's beyond the buzz

McClatchy-Tribune News Service  
(MCT)

And now it's Barack Obama's turn. The media glare is full force on the Illinois Democrat since he cracked open the door Sunday to a presidential bid.

For a while, the first-term senator had kept it firmly closed. But whenever a politician says something like, "Given the responses that I've been getting over the last several months, I have thought about the possibility," you know he is really thinking about running.

That's what Obama said on "Meet the Press." And his titillating response follows urgings to run from a pair of dissimilar New York Times columnists, the rightish David Brooks and the leftish Frank Rich.

Obama's candidacy excites some Democrats because he's an inspiring figure. He's quick on his feet. He doesn't like to demonstrate opponents. And his multicultural background connects him with Americans from many different walks of life.

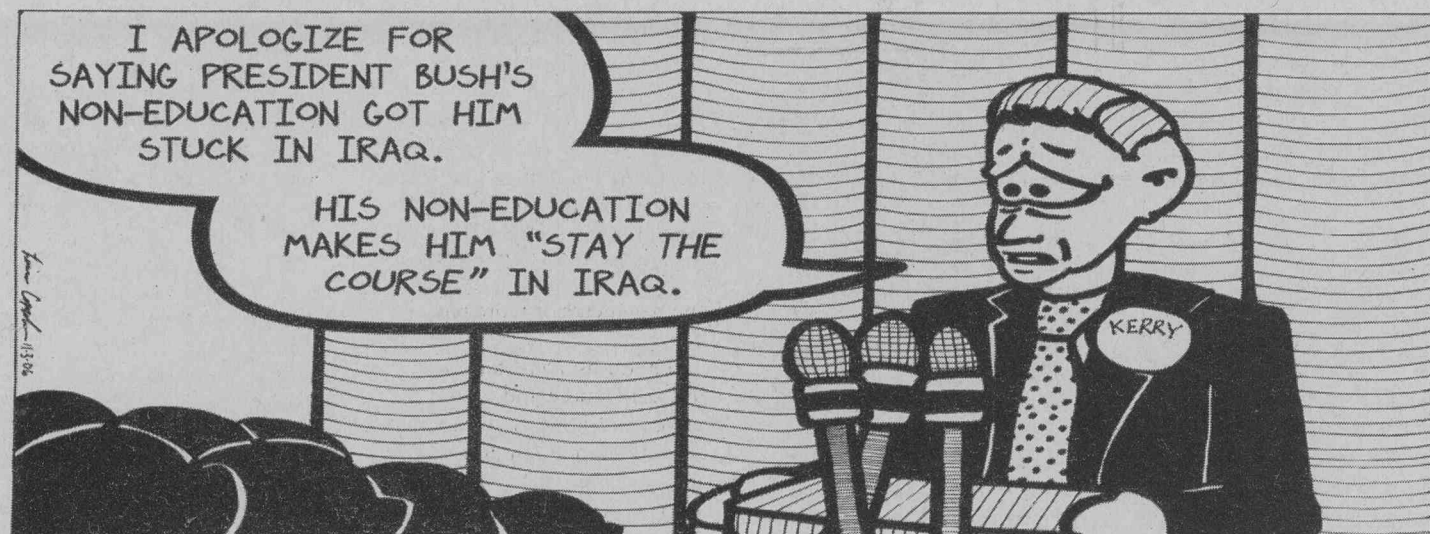
The chatter around him also indicates that a fair number of Democrats aren't ready to coa-

lesce behind Sen. Hillary Clinton. Young Democrats may especially get juiced up about him because at age 45, he represents youth, vitality and energy.

But what makes a fresh face like Obama exciting is also what makes him a huge question mark as a possible president. Voters can project upon him what they want because he's been in the Senate only two years. Who knows whether all the wishes and hopes will correspond to the Real Barack?

That's what the Democratic primaries would sort out. If he joins the race, he and his team should expect a thorough scrubbing from voters, competitors and the media. At this point, most of what people know about him stems from one commanding speech at the 2004 Democratic convention. That's not enough to stake the republic on.

Clinton comes with high negatives, not to mention a powerful machine and money that can scare off opponents. Obama, at least, doesn't appear scared. And since democracy thrives on choices, he could provide Democrats with a fresh one.



## Colleges should give kids and parents a break

McClatchy-Tribune News Service  
(MCT)

Bok to the future.

In the movies, young time traveler Marty McFly goes back to the 1950s and inadvertently messes with the futures of his then-teenage parents.

That was then; that was Hollywood.

"Bok to the future" is a drama playing out in the admissions offices of about 100 elite colleges nationwide. If it's a hit, those colleges will soon be doing less to mess with the minds of bright young high school students, and their parents.

Derek Bok, interim president of Harvard University, announced recently that Harvard would scrap its early admissions program beginning next year.

Bok's plot twist deserves the glowing reviews it is getting. Other elite schools that have used early admissions programs to enhance their prestige, including the University of Pennsylvania, would be wise to follow his example. Princeton said Monday that it would.

That collective sigh you just heard is from talented high school kids expressing relief. They know how these programs push high-stakes choices

about college applications earlier and earlier into their high school years; send their Type-A parents into a competitive frenzy; and pack their days with stress.

Early admissions is mostly about 100 or so "brand-name" colleges. For some promising kids, the pressure to get into such a college distorts their high school years as early as ninth grade. Early admissions programs are hardly to blame for all of that, but they don't help.

Given that Harvard is the brand name to top all brand names in higher education, its de-escalation could have a beneficial effect.

For those of you who have never been through the intense ritual, here's how early admissions works: Colleges, in hopes of locking in a good share of the attractive applicants, reserve a portion of the slots in the next class to kids willing to apply early (in the early fall of their senior year). These programs come in several flavors: One requires students to apply early only to that college, and to commit to attend if accepted. The other requires students to apply early, but does not force them to commit then.

The advantages of early admissions programs tend to flow more to the schools than to

the students.

For the students, it means fewer application fees and essays to write - if you get in. And for students who have good, but not slam-dunk, credentials for an elite college, it could push them over the line.

That covers the advantages. Now, the disadvantages.

The pressure on kids to zero in on one brand-name school and go the early admissions route can shadow their whole high school career, turning that time into a grim credential hunt that leads kids to lose weight, sleep and perspective.

It also stampedes many students into the wrong college choice; a lot can change in teenagers' self-understanding and aspirations between the spring of junior year, when the early admissions maneuvering heats up, and the spring of senior year, when they used to choose colleges.

Early admissions discriminates by social class. Most kids who take that route can afford to hire private advisers, or are in high schools that have savvy college counselors. Most American high school students aren't nearly so fortunate. The average ratio of those students to college counselors is 500-1.

Swearing loyalty to one school

also means kids and families lose any leverage to play one school off another to get more financial aid.

So why has early admissions spread? It works for many colleges deemed to be in the elite ranks. It ensures them their share of top-level, tuition-paying students.

How is that elite determined, anyway? In many ways, a popular influence is the U.S. News and World Report rankings. A while back, colleges figured out that stressing early admissions was a way to game the U.S. News rankings, to improve their ratings for selectivity and desirability.

Cynics and competitors say Harvard, being Harvard, isn't risking much in this move. The brightest of the bright will still want to experience the Yard.

But, closer to home, the University of Delaware, an institution whose prestige has been on the rise, earlier this year made the same choice to abandon early admissions - and it says it likes the results so far.

Competitiveness to get into elite colleges is out of control. Let's follow Bok to a fairer and less-frenzied future.

### THE A&T REGISTER

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# World News

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The A&T Register

November 15, 2006

## Some Palestinians face new visa restrictions

By DION NISSENBAUM  
McClatchy Newspapers  
(MCT)

TURMUS AIYA, West Bank—Laila Nofal doesn't really care why the Israelis won't let her mother come home. The precocious 11-year-old just wants Israel to allow her mom, a U.S. citizen, to return to their West Bank village so her family can be together again.

All Mekky al Hafeh wants is for Israel to let him in. The 29-year-old Palestinian master's student from the West Bank city of Hebron hopes to work alongside Israelis at a special center working to solve the Middle East's environmental problems.

The two are among thousands of Palestinians whose lives have been thrown into limbo by new Israeli security measures that are dividing families, undermining coexistence programs and blocking American citizens from living in the region.

Israeli military leaders say the new steps are unfortunate measures needed to counter the rise of the hard-line Hamas-led Palestinian government. Others dispute both the necessity and the wisdom of the measures.

U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice urged Israel to rethink its stand when she visited the country last month, and a variety of Israelis, including the education minister, have worried that the restrictive policies will

embolden extremists while alienating the Palestinian moderates Israel should be trying to strengthen.

On Thursday, Israel's Supreme Court told the military to explain its policies that bar Palestinian students from crossing through Israel to study in the West Bank. The action came in response to a protest filed by Israeli human rights groups questioning restrictions on students from Gaza wishing to study in the West Bank.

Another case challenges Israel's new blanket ban preventing Palestinians like Hafeh from studying in Israel.

"These are exactly the people we should be strengthening to move the peace process along, and all we do is put huge barriers in front of them," said Rabbi Michael M. Cohen, director of special projects at the Arava Institute for Environmental Studies, which is trying to win Israeli approval for Hafeh to continue his research at its center.

The new regulations are part of a broader Israeli campaign to isolate the Palestinian government, which is now dominated by Islamist militants philosophically opposed to Israel's existence. They also play to many Israelis' fear that the country's Jewish identity will be swamped if millions of Palestinians who fled during decades of war are allowed to return.

One of the most significant changes has been an Israeli deci-

sion to begin enforcing long-ignored visa regulations that limit the ability of tens of thousands of U.S. citizens and others to live in the West Bank and Gaza Strip unless they were born there. In

return with fresh tourist visas.

But now Israel is refusing to honor that informal system, something many people have discovered only when they've been turned back at the border.



Nofal Nofal, left, a Palestinian-American businessman sits on his couch with some of his children and nephews at his home in Turmus Aiya, West Bank.

2000, at the start of the second Palestinian uprising, Israel stopped issuing most residency papers to those who wanted to live in the West Bank or Gaza Strip.

Until recently, however, authorities looked the other way as thousands of teachers and business people, among others, entered the territories on tourist visas. Every three months, they'd leave, usually crossing into Jordan for a couple of days, and then

That's what happened when Nofal Nofal, his wife, Wujoud, and their seven children tried to return home in August after spending their summer vacation in the United States.

Nofal was born in the West Bank; Wujoud was born to Palestinian parents who moved to Jordan; both have U.S. citizenship after living for 10 years in the United States.

In 2002, they decided to raise their children in the West Bank

and moved back to their small village. Nofal, because he was born in the West Bank, didn't need Israeli permission. But Wujoud did, so every three months she left to renew her tourist visa.

When the family arrived on Aug. 29 at the main crossing between Jordan and the West Bank, Israeli border officials kept the family waiting for six hours, then refused to let Wujoud enter. Stunned, she returned with her infant son to Amman while Nofal traveled home with the six older children.

Wujoud has tried to return home five times. Each time Israel has placed a large red "Entry Denied" stamp in her passport, Nofal said.

The separation has taken its toll on the family, Nofal said, especially on his wife.

"Imagine a mother without her children," he said.

Nofal called the ban part of a "silent evacuation" of Palestinians from the West Bank and other critics have referred to it as a "silent transfer." Nofal suggested that Israel was trying to prevent successful businessmen such as himself from helping to build the foundations of a healthy Palestinian state.

Hafeh is caught up in Israel's new blanket ban on Palestinian students. Before, Israel was willing to examine students on a case-by-case basis, and dozens of Palestinians studied at Israeli universities for advanced degrees that aren't available in the West Bank

or Gaza. But no more.

Hafeh had hoped to join the small Arava Institute, which strives to create a balance of Arabs and Jews to work on cooperative programs at its center in the Negev desert. It currently has only one Palestinian among its 30-odd students, and he's from Jerusalem, so he has an Israeli-issued ID.

But Hafeh hasn't been able to win approval, which distresses David Lehrer, the center's executive director. "This should be something the state of Israel and the Israeli army support because we are encouraging moderation," he said. "In a sense they are shooting themselves in the foot."

Lehrer's criticism is shared by a range of influential Israelis, including the education minister, the leaders of the top universities and a coalition of human rights groups.

Shlomo Dror, a spokesman for Israel's Defense Ministry, said the elevation of Hamas as the ruling party in the Palestinian government left the military with little choice but to tighten the regulations.

Now the country can never be completely certain that the Palestinians it lets in aren't working with militants. "Every Palestinian who comes to Israel, there is some kind of risk, so we are trying to reduce the risk," he said.



## Tattoos help identify Iraq's dead bodies



Ali Abbas, a 24-year-old Iraqi man, shows a tattoo giving his name, neighborhood and family phone number as identification in case he is killed in a bombing or a kidnapping and then dumped on a street.

By NANCY A. YOUSSEF  
McClatchy Newspapers  
(MCT)

BAGHDAD, Iraq—Ali Abbas decided that his upper right thigh was the best place for a tattoo because no one gets tortured there.

He'd seen hundred of bodies in the city morgue and dozens of hospitals during his 18-day search for his missing uncle. He'd seen drill marks in swollen, often unrecognizable heads, slash marks across necks, bullet holes in backs, abdomens and swollen hands. He'd seen bodies that had been thrown into the river, so swollen they'd barely looked human. But by and large, the thighs had been intact.

So that's where he decided to

have his name, address and phone number tattooed, in case the day comes when someone is searching for his body.

Tattoos are considered a sin in Islam, which holds that believers shouldn't deface their bodies. And tattoo shops are difficult to find in Baghdad. They're often in the basements of more reputable shops.

But at least some tattoo shops are seeing more and more Iraqis who, like Abbas, are willing to risk offending Islam to ease their families' grief in the event of their deaths. The owner of one tattoo shop in central Baghdad admitted that he'd done such tattoos, but said he didn't want to talk about it for fear that he'd be killed.

That some Muslims are getting tattoos is an intimate reflection of national chaos, and an outward symbol of the inner turmoil the chaos has created.

There's nothing artful about these tattoos. The branding has the efficient look of a business card, written in clear, bland type.

"This is our life now," Abbas said as he explained why he doesn't think that having a tattoo makes him a bad Shiite. "I think this is the best way for my family to recognize me. Everyone knows in my family that I have it: my mother, my brother, my wife."

There's no way to know how many Iraqis have made Abbas' choice. Officials at Baghdad's morgue say they've used tattoos to identify bodies, but never one with a name and address. Police officers told McClatchy Newspapers that they've encountered bodies with names and phone numbers tattooed on them. They've called the numbers and let the families pick up the bodies instead of taking them to

the morgue.

Whatever the extent of its use, the decision to tattoo reflects the country's level of violence. It seems that anyone can be kidnapped and killed for any reason.

Abbas realized how possible that was a few days before he got the tattoo. "I saw two vehicles, and they took five people out and shot them in front of my eyes," he recalled. "I was about to drive away. They stared at me, and I thought they were going to shoot me too, but they drove away. And I thought, 'What if I were one of the five people?' Nobody knows them. Everyone is scared. No one will help them."

Abbas, 24, who cuts meat off kabob racks for a living, lives in Kefah, a poorer western Baghdad neighborhood. He has a car, and his neighbors often ask him where he got the money to purchase one. He worries that the decision to kill could be fickle.

"They ask: How did I get it? And they don't know that I work hard. Maybe they will kill me for this car."

Abbas was shaken by his uncle's death. He decided to brand himself when a friend, policeman Ahmad Ali, 23, showed him his tattoo.

Ali said he got a tattoo with his name, address and phone number because he walked by a wall in his precinct every day showing the faces of the 60 officers who'd died violently, many of them after they'd been kidnapped.

Now officers share with one another where they can get tattoos. "Getting tattoos has become very popular among policemen and national guards," Ali said. "We're kidnapped all the time. This is the only way we will be returned home. We face death every day."

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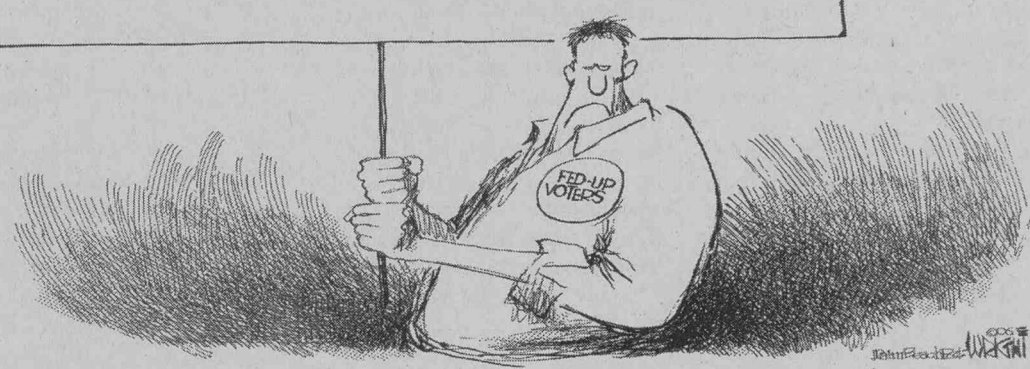
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### MISSION ACCOMPLISHED





# Arts & Life

November 15, 2006

The A&T Register

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## A Phi A's Cinderella Story: Who will fill Miss Black and Gold's shoes?

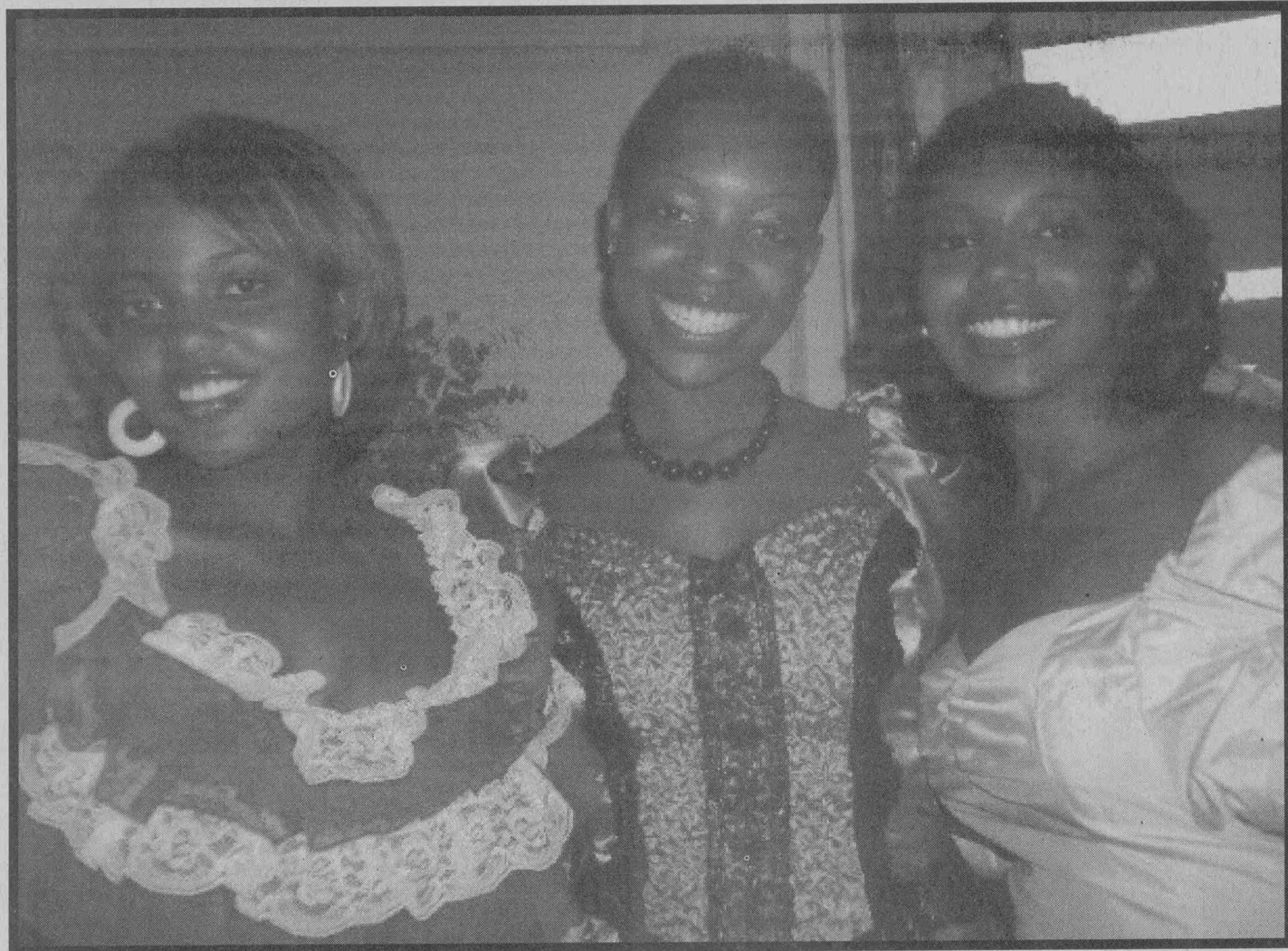


PHOTO CREDIT BY: KRISTEN MEDLEY  
Some of the ladies running for Miss Black and Gold.

By SENE MOODY  
Contributor

Everyone is in search for Cinderella, including the brothers of the Beta Epsilon Chapter of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Inc. and the reigning queen, ISIS, and her royal court.

The big clock in the church tower tells her when to start another day of drudgery, but no matter how her family abuses and humiliates her, they can not stop her from dreaming.

Dreams are the wishes of Cinderella's heart, and despite her sadness and hardships, she has faith that someday her wishes of becoming Miss Black and Gold will come true.

When the year 2006 arrives, Cinderella is sure that her time has come. When she finds out her other competition, she cries, she's heartbroken and alone.

The brothers of Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Inc. say that no matter how your heart is grieving, if you keep on believing, the dreams that you wish will come

true.

Cinderella is by no means a weak-willed character content to let events flow around her. On the contrary, when chosen to be a participant in the Centennial pageant, she uses everything short of physical force to persuade the brothers of Beta Epsilon to be their next queen.

In using the Cinderella theme, the brothers were in search for their perfect Cinderella/queen to represent them for the 2006-2007 school year.

The event started off with a dance between the Alphas and the contestants, but it wasn't no ordinary dance.

What appeared to be a normal romantic dance to a song by Whitney Houston from *Cinderella* by Rodgers and Hammerstein, quickly became a party when they started dancing to up-tempo songs.

Once the dance was over, it was time for the contestants to introduce themselves and then prepare for the next portion of the pageant.

When asked his opinion of the

perfect Cinderella, Matthew Melvin, a senior psychology major and member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity said, "class, beauty, intelligence and knowing in you heart that you want to represent the Alphas."

The pageant consisted of the ladies showing off swimwear, talent, business wear, evening wear and there were also two performances from Couture Productions' word and models.

Randall Ellington, another member of the Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity said, "(Cinderella) has academics in order, very attractive but knows that beauty is in the eye of the beholder, and can interact well in a social setting."

This pageant was more than beauty and being crowned as a queen because the winner of Miss Black and Gold also received a \$500 scholarship. The background information on the scholarship has been on a national level since 1984; however, there was always some kind of money involved since they first started doing the pageants. "It was fun, funny moments.

It felt like a 100 pounds off (my chest) because the people finally got a chance see the show," said Mr. Alpha Phi Alpha, Justin Blake. "The pageant was one of the best in recent times."

Once it was all said and done, the following ladies were crowned as the Alpha Cinderella/queens:  
-Shelita Perry, Miss Black and Gold  
-Kristen Medley, Miss 2006  
-Adina Stewart, Miss Beta Epsilon  
-Charity Smith, Miss 1929



PHOTO CREDIT BY: KRISTEN MEDLEY

## A legend gone, R.I.P

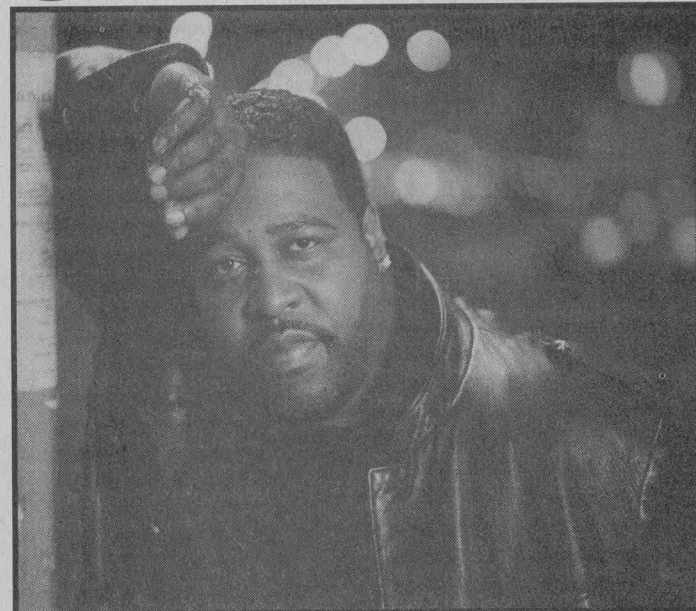


PHOTO SUBMITTED

Gerald Levert: an R&B legend

By VIVEKA EDWARDS  
Contributor

"Such a tremendous talent taken away so soon" were the words of Althea Perry, journalism and mass communication professor, when reflecting R&B star Gerald Levert's sudden death.

Levert was born July 13, 1966 to lead singer of the hit soul group The O'Jays, Eddie Levert and Martha Levert. Because of his father's career in the music business, Levert was exposed to the world of music at a young age.

Levert's first taste of fame was in 1986 with the R&B trio, LeVerts, consisting of him, brother Sean Levert and childhood friend Marc Gordon. After warranting two gold albums, Levert went on to pursue a solo career in performing and producing with soul legends like Pattie LaBelle, Barry White, Teddy Pendergrass and Anita Baker.

In 1991, Levert released his first solo album titled *Private Line* which took R&B charts by storm blowing him to number one.

In 1992, Levert, along with his father, Eddie, put out the hit song *Baby Hold On To Me*. This hit led to the making of a full album with his father titled *Father and Son* in 1995. Also in that year, Levert went up for a Grammy for writing Barry White's comeback single, *Practice What You Preach*.

In 1997, Levert joined R&B singers Johnny Gill and Keith Sweat in forming the trio LSG.

Their first album titled *Levert Sweat Gill* led to their second album titled *LSG2*.

In the midst of these talented voices, they put out the hit song *My Body and Door #1*.

In 2005, Levert put out another album called *Voices*.

Through hard work and dedication, Levert achieved so much from the time of his birth. He was one of contemporary soul's most accomplished singer and songwriter.

Levert died Friday, Nov. 10, 2006 in his sleep of a heart attack.

In his final days, Levert was preparing to appear on a reality show that required him to be put on a weight loss program with a host of other people. Some are saying this may have contributed to his heart attack.

Levert left behind his family including four children, a host of friends, his music and his memories.

His record label, Atlantic Records, issued a statement after confirming his death saying: "All of us at Atlantic are shocked and deeply saddened by his untimely death. He was one of the greatest voices of our time, who sang with unmatched soulfulness and power, as well as a tremendously gifted composer and an accomplished producer."

Levert's death caught many off guard including A&T alumnus, Keith Mac who described Levert as having a "unique sounding voice" and an artist gone "too young, too soon". Gerald died at the age of 40.

## Jim Jones' album is Ballin! Spotlight

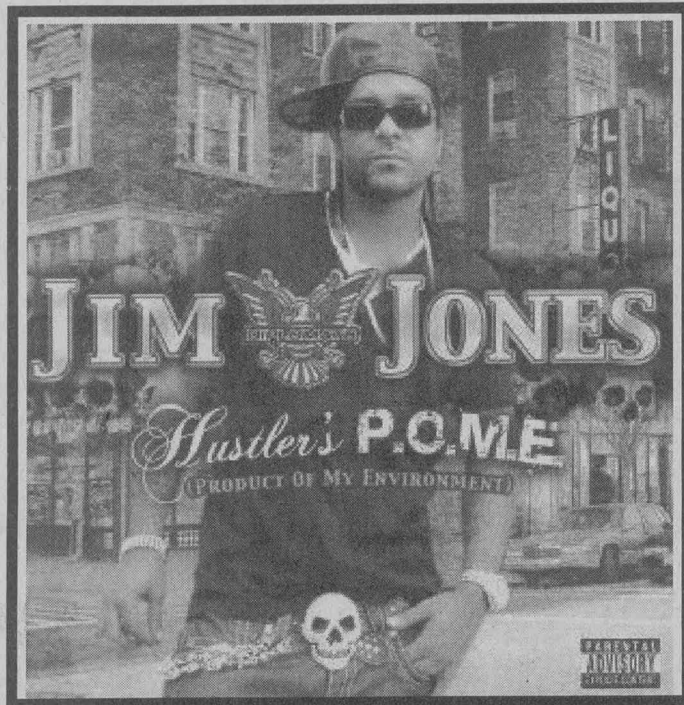


PHOTO SUBMITTED  
Jim Jones' album cover

By THOMAS CLEMENTS  
Contributor

Jim "One Eyed Willie" Jones, born Joseph Jimmy Guillermo Jones, steps out of his producer, director and executive seat to bring the streets another credible album.

"Hustler's P.O.M.E." (Product Of My Environment) released Nov. 7, 2006, from Koch Records, is a hard-hitting album that will have you "Ballin'" and yelling Dipset where ever you

go. A great follow up to "Harlem: Diary of a Summer" released in 2005, where Jones gave you "Summer with Miami," now he has everyone "Ballin'," and not on the basketball court. "Ballin'," where one throws up their hands as if they were shooting a shot, has become a new street craze that has everyone from NFL Players ballin' out on touchdowns to the clubs going crazy when the

"Ballin," record beat drops.

"Hustler's P.O.M.E." begins with a Max B laced track that takes Jones from his life on the dark streets, to the ice and bright lights of the entertainment world. The album has 20 street-inspired songs with beats and production that mirrors the darkness that Jones portrays through his voice, which is like no other in the game.

Jones, who does not step much out the Diplomat family when making an album, has features from Lil' Wayne, Rell, Dr. Ben Chavis and Chink Santana. It also would not be a Dip album if Cam did not bless it. Juelz Santana, Max B, Hell Rell and new Dip family members Jha Jha, Princess and Stack Bundles also appear on the album.

Production on the album doesn't have a lot of big named producers that other albums may have, but the tracks on the album definitely compliment Jones raspy style to the T. Chink Santana, Jim Jones and a few other up-and-coming producers make up a classic that can be played from track one to 20.

"So Harlem," the second track on the disc featuring Max B, comes off real hard. Produced by Chink Santana, "So Harlem" describes Jones, and it tells you who he is.

Jones takes you through a typ-

ical day Dipset style, and then he adds Max B, who brings you that gangster Jones is trying to represent in a soulful manner on the hook.

Another banger on the album is "Weather Man" featuring Lil' Wayne and mixtape king Stack Bundles.

"Weather Man", produced by Majik, is similar to Fat Joes' "Let it Rain," but best believe Weezy just isn't on the hook, and Stack Bundles talks about still spending money from his time with Desert Storm, a crew made famous by Fabolous. Then you have a timely verse from Jones who sets the record straight on who the Diplomats are and what would happen if you were to run your mouth a little too much.

"Hustlers P.O.M.E." is certified banger and should be added to your collection. Jimmy has proven that he is a MC, and if the other two previous albums are not an indication, then "Product Of My Environment" will be the period. Jones has carried the Dipset name in prime fashion, and he still has more to come.

**Best Song:** "Don't Push me Away" feat. Rell

**Worst Song:** "Get it Poppin" feat. JHA JHA and Princess

**Club Banger:** "Pin the Tail" feat. Cam, Juelz Santana, and Max B.

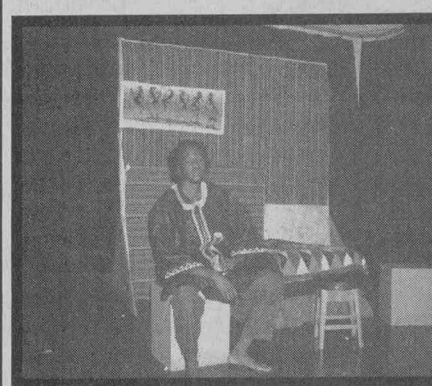


PHOTO CREDIT BY PAUL MCGREGOR  
A scene in the play

By PAUL MCGREGOR  
Special Contributor

Students from both A&T and Bennett College starred in a South African play entitled *The Drought* this past weekend at the Bennett College Theatre.

Jobe, the main character of the work was played by Moses Ochola, a senior international studies major at A&T.

Ochola, a Kenya native, shared his ideas about the play's overall theme.

"The play is about polygamy, women's empowerment and the traditional way of life versus the modern way of life. My character, Jobe, represents the traditional way as man being provider for his women. Jobe's younger brother, Bonechewer, represents the modern man who doesn't see providing as a necessity," Ochola said.

The *Drought*, written by Dr.

Bheki Langa tells the story of, Jobe; his three wives Noliwe, Nomusa, and Thandeka; his younger brother Bonechewer and his son Vusumuzi.

In the play, the audience is exposed to what happens to a culture under attack. As time progresses, the main character gets weaker implying that he and his culture are dying while city values collide with African cultural values.

Langa explained the symbolism of the work.

"This play is a symbol for change in cultural values and comes from white oppression of people in South Africa. This cultural collision creates division among the oppressed and reduces black empowerment," Langa said.

As the story unfolds, it becomes more complex. Each character represents a key component in the destruction and reconstruction of a society. One thing I took away from the play was the importance of adaptation. If we fail to adapt to the changes that take place in our society, then we will not survive.

Everyone played their roles very well. As Dr. Langa said, "The students' performances were incredible!"



## Chatman sets the pace for Lady Aggies

By Mike McCray  
Sports Editor

Brenden Chatman is small in stature, but she's probably the biggest thing to come out Iowa since Field of Dreams, at least at A&T.

She is the heart and soul of a Lady Aggies volleyball team poised to make a statement in this year's MEAC tournament.

However, the same woman who is so intense out on the court, actually never planned on playing college volleyball.

"I wanted to play basketball, so anytime schools contacted my high school coach she'd tell them I wasn't interested," said Chatman.

Thank God for our engineering program.

Flashback to 2004. Chatman was a gift dropped into the lap of new Aggies head coach Millicent Sylvan.

Drawn by the renowned engineering program and coming off a career defining year at Davenport North High School, where she was an Iowa Girls Coaches Association Class 4-A First Team member, and was the only senior on a Lady Wildcats team, she led them to the Iowa state playoffs.

She shunned attention from other schools closer to home like Northern Iowa and Wichita State and made the over 900-mile trek to A&T.

"I think Brenden does a

excellent job," said Sylvan. "Every game, every practice, every play, she comes in she works hard."

So who is Brenden Chatman? Ironically this fierce competitor is soft spoken and shy. She loves to read and do jigsaw puzzles in her spare time and aspires to write a fiction book and travel the world.

"Yes, I'm kind of a nerd," said Chatman.

How is this self-proclaimed "nerd" and a former Iowa Girls Coaches Association All-State basketball and volleyball player become just what A&T needed?

Look no further than her family.

"I think my family and my teammates help motivate me," said Chatman. "I don't want to let them down."

Brenden is in the top 10 of MEAC standings in assists, hitting percentage and service aces, the folks back home must be proud.

A&T owes a debt of gratitude to Melanie and Kevin Chatman for making Brenden play volleyball at Wood Junior High in seventh grade.

"I didn't like volleyball at first, my mom made me start playing," said Chatman. "But when I started playing I thought it was fun. I liked the team aspect of volleyball."

Her teammates have to love her coolness under pressure. Look at any Lady Aggies match this season and you'll see that Chatman isn't rattled by the pressure of a close match.

"I think I handle pressure alright," said Chatman. "You have to stay focused and aggressive."

The Lady Aggies owe Any Baker, head volleyball coach at Davenport North High School, for grooming Chatman into the player she is today.

"My high school coach taught me everything I know about volleyball and taught me

how to push myself."

On the court, Chatman and her teammates push themselves to the limits. Off the court, She maintains over a 3.0 GPA in arguably the toughest major on campus.

So how does she balance school and volleyball?

"It's really hard because you have to have a lot of study time and practice a lot but you just gotta do it," she said.

Doing what you have to do means getting up early and either having practice or class first thing in the morning. Or having practice in the middle of the day, which means everything has to be done before practice.

"You have class, practice, studying and try to go to sleep early for the next practice," said Chatman.

That's not including the Lady Aggies hectic travel schedule.

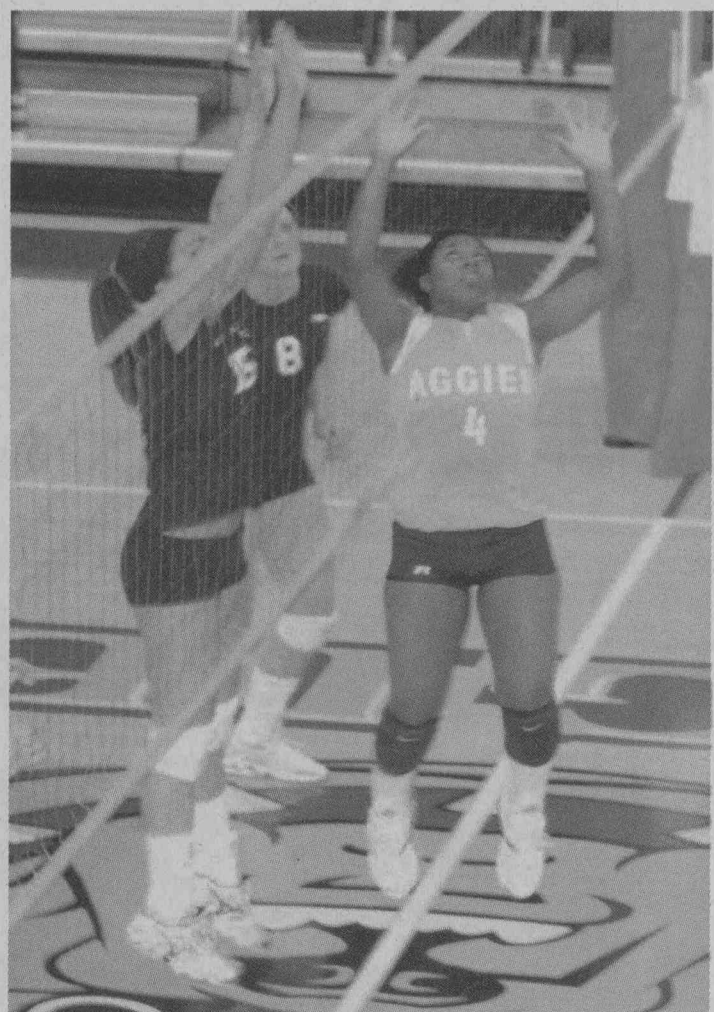
"Traveling is hard because we don't really stay overnight often so we get back late and we always have to go to class so it's rough but you gotta do it," she said.

The Lady Aggies continue doing what they have to do and have captured the attention of A&T fans searching for any positives during a down period in the athletics program, and Chatman has a theory on why that is.

"We work hard, we're very dedicated, we have a lot of 'Aggie Pride', we're fun to watch and I think everybody should come watch us play at least once. They'll come back," she said.

And comeback they did. Whether its friends of the girls or guys trying to get a glimpse of tone women in short shorts, attendance at volleyball games is big, making them campus celebrities and one of the most popular teams on campus.

"It feels good," she said, but Chatman isn't naive, she realizes what draws a lot of the crowd.



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL SIMMONS

Brenden Chatman, shown here against UNC Charlotte, is in the top 10 of MEAC standings in assists, hitting percentage and service aces while also maintaining over a 3.0 GPA in Industrial and Systems Engineering.

"I think its okay," she said. "That's what they come to look at, but I think they really enjoy the game when they come. I don't think they expect to see how hard we play and the hustle and people swinging hard." Whatever brings them out, fans see that this team is really good. On the shoulders of Chatman, Krystal Cooper, Arlene and Darlene Mitchell, the Lady Aggies are making waves.

Chatman says her message to the youth would be if you can see it, you can be it, and right now, A&T's sights are set on a MEAC championship.

Back to what got her here. Former Lady Aggies head coach Cathy Royleac got a call

from a friend in Davenport that had seen Chatman play and told Royleac to take a look at her.

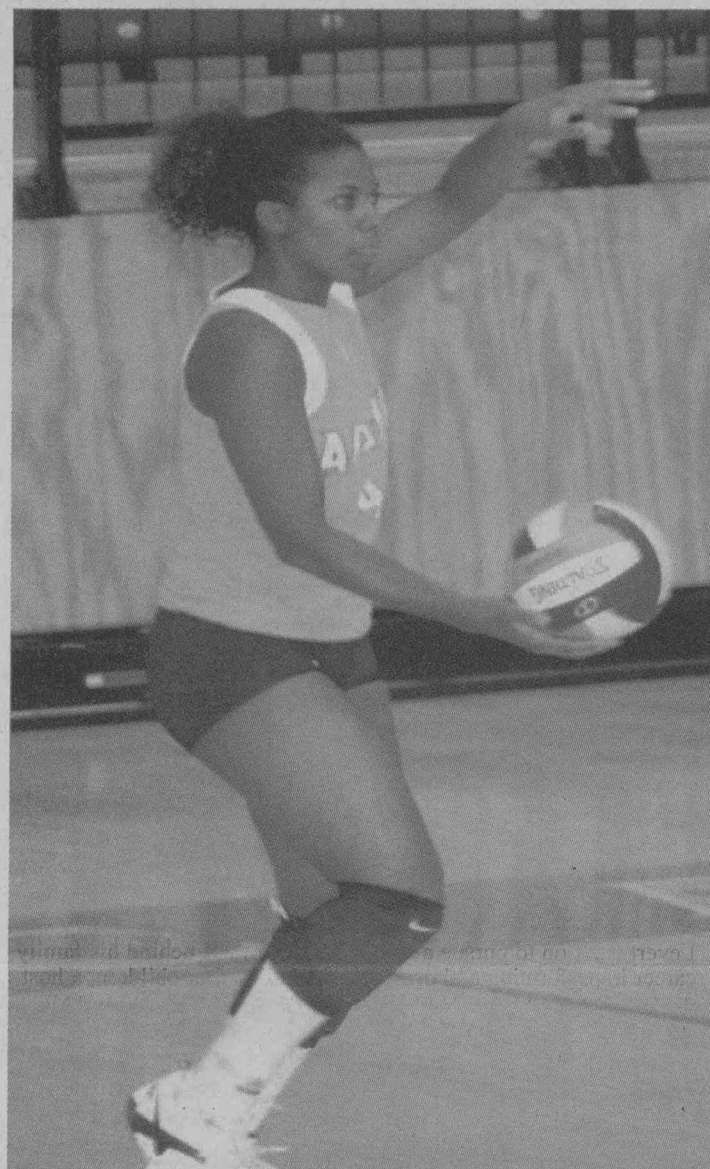
"She called me, I came down and I liked it and decided to stay," said Chatman.

She fell in love with A&T and if she can help the Aggies win their first MEAC championship, A&T will fall in love with her.

### MEAC Volleyball Championships

Friday, Nov. 17th -  
Sunday, Nov. 19th

Hampton, Va.



## Aggies season of discontent continues

STORY FROM  
WWW.NCATAGGIES.COM

Next season, North Carolina A&T and Elon will end an eight-year string of playing one another in football during the fall.

Elon rushed 209 yards and the Aggies turned the ball over four times in a 45-0 Phoenix win that evens the all-time series at four games apiece.

Curtis Walls led the Aggies with six receptions for 70 yards as he extended his streak of catching at least one pass in a game to 15.

Wes Pope led the Phoenix through the air as he went 13-for-18 for 179 yards and two touchdowns.

Michael Mayers added six catches for 77 yards and a touchdown, and he also had 63 yards rushing and touchdown.

The Aggies defense played strong early in the game, however, forcing the Phoenix to punt twice in its first two possessions.

The Phoenix took its third possession and drove 82 yards with the big play coming on a 25-yard end-and-around to the Aggies 3-yard line.

Elon quarterback Wes Pope finished off the drive with a 3-yard touchdown.

The Aggies had a chance to answer immediately as Elon's Karlos Sullivan fumbled a Lee Woodson punt, and Tony Leath recovered at the Elon 32 near the end of the first quarter.

But the Aggies lost 13 yards on the drive, and turned the ball over on downs.

"I thought that was a big moment in the ball game," said Fobbs.

"There are moments in a game that can turn things in one direction or another. But you have to give their defense credit because that's what defenses are supposed to do. When you're given a short field, your job is still to stop your opponent from scoring."

Elon took its momentum and scored on a 34-yard field goal. A short punt set up the Phoenix's next score as it took over at the Aggies 38 and in one play Michael Mayers scored on a 38-yard wide receiver for a 17-0 lead.

"We made too many mistakes tonight," said Fobbs.

"Inconsistency has been a mark of this football team this season. But I must be rubbing off on these young men because they get up

and come to work every day with intentions on getting better. Our approach needs to be just that if we want to turn this around."

Coach Fobbs and the Aggies travel to Charlotte looking for their first win in the last game of the season as they take on S.C. State in the Rivalry Classic Saturday November 18th at 2PM in Charlotte's Memorial Stadium

**For Ticket Information:**  
Call (336) 334-7749

**Special Thanks to**  
[www.ncataggies.com](http://www.ncataggies.com) the official website of North Carolina A&T Athletics.

Mike Ferguson had 51 yards rushing in the Aggies 45-0 loss against Elon

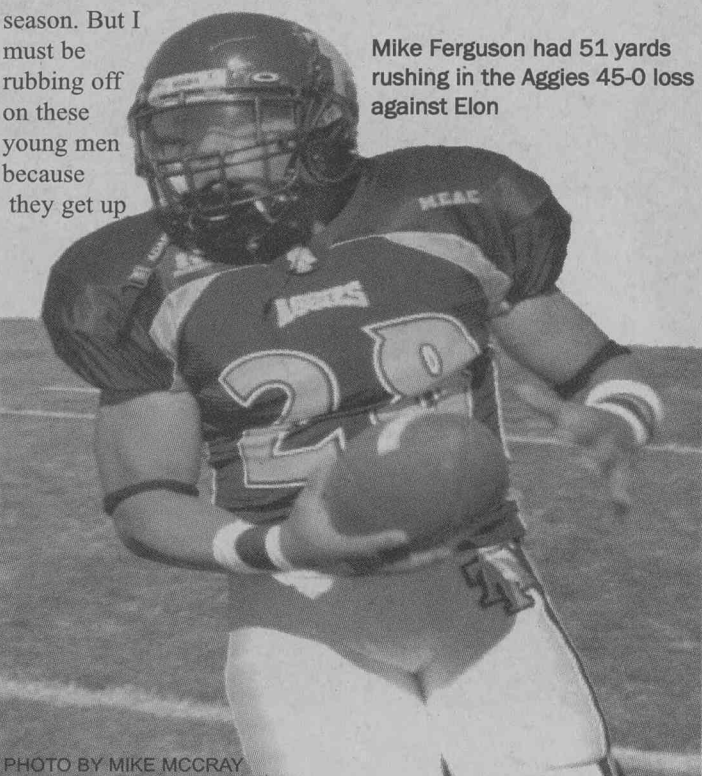


PHOTO BY MIKE MCCRAY

## Lady Aggies win season opener, Men go winless in opening tournament

By Mike McCray  
Sports Editor

The new and improved Lady Aggies basketball team cruised to a 61-49 victory over Stetson in their home opener.

A&T (1-0) has ten new faces on this year's team and were led by a talented trio of freshmen all playing in their first collegiate game.

Neither Lamona Smalley, Lonise Coulter or "Tweet" Cook showed first game jitters as they combined to score 43 of the Aggies 61 points.

Smalley led the way with 20 points and 12 rebounds as the Lady Aggies cruised for most of the game.

Everytime Stetson tried to mount a comeback, A&T tightened up on defense forcing the Lady Hatters into turnovers.

The former E.E. Smith standout and 2006Mid-Southeastern Conference Player of the Year, Tweet Cook had a stellar debut with 16 points, eight rebounds and three assists to help the Lady Aggie cause.

Determined not to let the freshmen have all the fun sophomore Ahmad Williams also added 11 points.

A stingy Lady Aggies defense forced Stetson to shoot only 26 percent from the field in the first half and 40 percent in the second.

"You always want to start on a good note," said head coach Patricia Cage-Bibbs.

"We can't get too excited. Our young ladies still have a long way to go and they still have a lot to learn, but I hope tonight gives them some confidence."

The Lady Aggies travel to

the University of Georgia Wednesday to take on the Lady Bulldogs at 7PM.

Jerry Eaves' gang traveled to Columbia, Mo. to play in the John Thompson Foundation Classic and left the tournament 0-3 but with a lot of positives to build on.

The Aggies lost the first game of the round robin tournament 101-80 against Missouri.

Jason Wills had 17 points and 10 rebounds to lead A&T in the loss.

Five Aggies were in double figures including Walt Booth and Derek Crumpton who both contributed 14 a piece.

Austin Ewing netted 11 and Angelo Hernandez had 10 as the Aggies launched 26 three pointers in the game.

Steven Rush's stroke from beyond the arc could have been the difference as he went 1-8 from three and 1-11 overall.

The fact that the Aggies hung in with a major D1 is one positive the team could take from the game as they went into game two of the tournament

against Stetson.

Although the Lady Aggies had cruised against Stetson at home the men were locked in a tight battle until the end where they eventually fell 72-69.

The last day of the classic pitted the Army Black Knights against the Aggies.

Army played with military precision en route to a 63-49 win over A&T at Mizzou Arena.

The lead switched hands multiple times in the first half before Army took control for good late in the first half.

Army forced the Aggies to shoot just 25 percent from the field in the first half.

Jarrell Brown led the way for Army with 22 points while connecting on six three-pointers in the game.

Austin Ewing and Steven Rush were the only Aggies in double figures with 12 and 10 respectively.

The men travel to Dayton to take on the Flyers, Wednesday at 7PM before returning to Corbett Monday for their home opener against Mars Hill.

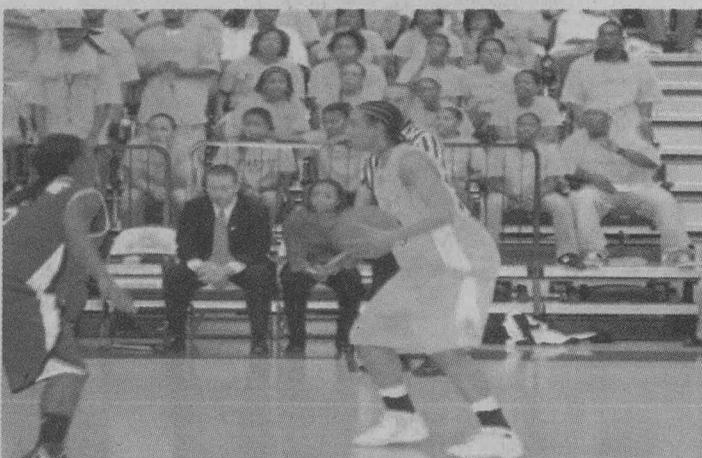


PHOTO BY MICHAEL SIMMONS

Ahmad Williams tries to find one of her teammates during the first half of the Lady Aggies 61-49 victory over Stetson. Williams had 11 points in the game





*...to report  
on the latest  
celebrity guest  
appearances  
on A&T's  
campus*

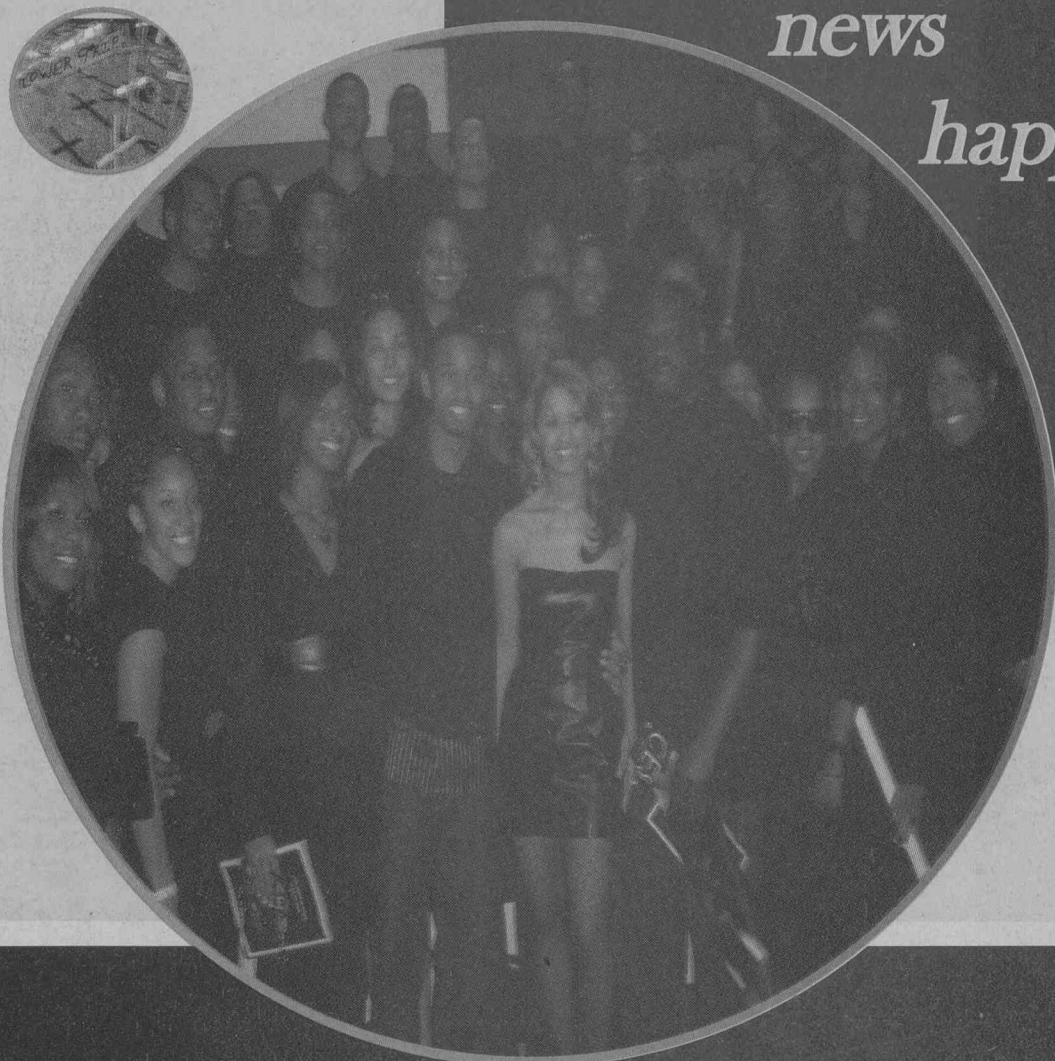


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